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ture shows that our knowledge of the ecology of these plants has advanced but little beyond the observations recorded by JOHN RAY[39] more than two centuries ago.—GEO. D. FULLER.

Syndiploid nuclei.—Nuclear figures in chloralized root tips, described by NĚMEC, then by STRASBURGER, and then discussed and figured at some length in NĚMEC's recent book on fertilization, have been reinvestigated by STRASBURGER.[40] He used again the root tips of *Pisum sativum*, and made a critical comparison of the nuclear figures in normal and chloralized tips, and compared the peculiar mitoses of syndiploid nuclei with the normal heterotypic mitoses of the same species. He agrees with NĚMEC that the syndiploid nuclei gradually disappear, but denies that any heterotypic mitoses are concerned in the disappearance. NĚMEC's figures, intended to support the theory of a somatic heterotypic mitosis, are discussed and explained as only peculiar vegetative mitoses, with merely superficial resemblances to genuine reduction divisions. —CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Structure of protoplasm.—During the last decade cytologists have been so busy with various phases of the chromosome problem that little attention has been given to the structure of protoplasm. A preliminary announcement by LEPESCHKIN[41] is entitled "On the structure of protoplasm," but this paper deals with artificial emulsions rather than with protoplasm itself. The principal conclusion is that streaming protoplasm cannot have the foam structure described by BÜTSCHLI, but rather has the structure of an emulsion. He admits that the peripheral layers of protoplasm in infusoria may have a foam structure.—CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Peat bogs in Iowa.—A comparison has been made by PAMMEL[42] between the peat bogs of northern Iowa and those occurring in other parts of the United States. The principal types found in this state are the aspen bog, willow bog, sedge bog, and rush bog, none having a very extensive development. The sphagnum bog is conspicuously absent. A detailed comparison of the bog flora of Iowa, Wisconsin, and Michigan shows that in Iowa many of the typical bog plants of more northern regions are replaced by others of a very different character.—GEO. D. FULLER.

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[39] RAY, JOHN, History of plants. Vol. I, p. 185. 1686.

[40] STRASBURGER, EDUARD, Kernteilungsbilder bei der Erbse. Flora **102**:1–23. *pl. 1.* 1911.

[41] LEPESCHKIN, W. W., Ueber die Struktur des Protoplasmas. Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesells. **29**:181–190. 1911.

[42] PAMMEL, L. H., Flora of northern Iowa peat bogs. Iowa Geol. Survey **19**: 739–784. 1909.